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## Happy New Year 2007

Wishing you a year of fun,  
good times, and success.

**From AUN/SEED-Net Team**



## AUN/SEED-Net Welcomes Applications for Graduate Degree Programs FY2007 until 15 February 2007 Only!

Please be reminded that we accept applications for the following programs from now **until 15 February 2007** only.



- Master's Degree Program 55 scholarships
- PhD Sandwich Program 18 scholarships
- PhD Program in Singapore 20 scholarships

If you are interested in applying for any programs, please send your complete set of application forms to Contact Person at your Sending Institution now! For more information, please go to [www.seed-net.org](http://www.seed-net.org) or e-mail to [grad@aun-seed.net](mailto:grad@aun-seed.net).

## Preparation Meeting for the 12th Steering Committee Meeting

Representatives from Member Institutions gathered in Bangkok to jointly plan activities for the next phase of AUN/SEED-Net after March 2008.

On December 1, 2006 AUN/SEED-Net invited representatives from all Member Institutions (MIs) to join the Preparation Meeting for the 12th Steering Committee Meeting at Novotel Hotel at Siam Square, Bangkok, Thailand. Eighteen representatives from all MIs except the University of Yangon and observers from some member institutions, JICA Headquarters, JICA Thailand Office, and the AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat discussed and drafted a proposal for the activity plan of AUN/SEED-Net's next phase, which would cover another five years from March 2008-2013.



The activity plan was formulated based on four strategies: MIs Capacity Enhancement, Collaborative Research for Industry and Community, Further Strengthening of Engineering Network, and Towards Partnership of ASEAN-Japan Institute of Technology. After discussion, the meeting agreed that some existing programs should be continued or merged into new programs and more programs should be designed to respond to MIs' demands. Importantly, contributions from MIs were considered as one funding source to retain or even maximize the size of the Project's next phase. Many MIs therefore offered several financial and in-kind contributions to support the next phase's activities.



The proposal for the detailed activity plan for the next phase of the Project would be presented to the 12th Steering Committee Meeting on 19 January 2007 for approval.

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## Environmental Engineering: Collaboration for a Cleaner Environment

By University of the Philippines -  
Diliman



AUN/SEED-Net students at UP with Prof. Dr. Genandrialine L. Peralta

The Environmental Engineering Program of the University of the Philippines-Diliman (UPD) has grown significantly since its inception in the early 1970's with a mission to educate and train research and operations engineers. As of school year 2006-2007, there are over 100 students enrolled in the Master's Degree Program and 10 students in the PhD Program. There are 25 PhD professors supporting the program from six departments who are trained from USA, UK, Canada, Japan, Netherlands, Australia, and the Philippines.

The program has increased its local and international student population over the years. With AUN/SEED-Net serving the catalytic role, it had the privilege of hosting the field of Environmental Engineering for the advancement of quality graduate engineering education in the ASEAN region. Initially, the first scholar came from Indonesia who graduated in April 2004 and the next three scholars are from Vietnam. At present, there are 14

scholars from Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. Of the 14 scholars, 11 are master's and 3 are PhD students. Three master's scholars have already graduated and 4 more master's scholars are expected to graduate in April 2007 at the same time as PhD scholar Ms Le Thi Hong Tran from Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology, who will be the first PhD graduate in Environmental Engineering.

The success of the Environmental Engineering program is attributed to the interdisciplinary international collaborative courses, researches, grants, and seminars. In 1-2 August 2006, UPD Environmental Engineering hosted the 8th Field-Wise Seminar held at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila, Philippines, with the theme "Engineering Solutions to Environmental Challenges: A Regional Collaborative Approach." The seminar served as a venue to review, discuss, and design annual implementation plan for various input of the AUN/SEED-Net Projects for the enhancement of the program. In addition, the Environmental Engineering faculty visited several member institutions in November 2006 to actively promote the program and recruitment of graduate students. This includes Institute of Technology of Cambodia in Cambodia, Burapha University in Thailand, and National University of Laos in Lao PDR. On this trip, top officials of UPD also signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with these three universities to sustain the collaboration beyond AUN/SEED-Net.



Above: UP Environmental Engineering faculty staff visiting member institutions to promote the program

Below: Mr. Hoang Tuan Dung from Hanoi University of Technology and his Filipino colleague in a laboratory



AUN/SEED - Net program has provided opportunities to UPD to maximize the educational growth of its students by providing foreign scholarships, research grants and special equipment grants that benefit both the faculty and students. UPD Environmental Engineering will continue to provide the best graduate education in this region and hope for strong connection with other member institutions.

### Events

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December 1, 2006: AUN/SEED-Net held the Preparation Meeting for the 12th Steering Committee Meeting at Novotel Hotel at Siam Square, Bangkok, to draft a proposal for activity plan of the 2nd phase of AUN/SEED-Net. The meeting was participated by representatives and observers from member institutions, JICA, and the AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat.



December 5-6, 2006: The 2nd Field-wise Seminar in Geological Engineering for FY2006 was arranged at Donchan Hotel, Vientiane, by National University of Laos. Remarkably, it was the first field-wise seminar in Lao PDR.



December 21-22, 2006: The 1st Field-wise Seminar in Manufacturing Engineering for FY2006 was held by National University of Laos at Donchan Hotel, Vientiane.



## Electrical & Electronic Engineering: Continuous Effort towards ASEAN Academic and Research Partnership

By Chulalongkorn University

Since the launch of the AUN/SEED-Net project in year 2003, Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) is among the promising fields according to the number of applicants and graduates from member institutions. Department of Electrical Engineering, the biggest department of Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University, houses 55 full-time faculty members, is proudly represented as a host of the EEE field. The department has 12 research laboratories specializing in four areas namely electronics, control system, power, and communication. From the first batch of 11 Master's and 2 PhD students in the year of 2003 growing to 15 Master's and 7 PhD students in the year of 2006, the department has continued the tradition of academic and research excellence and contribution to ASEAN community.

This year we also launch our revised 36-credit Master degree's curriculum which puts equal emphasis on the strength of research and thesis (18 credits) and up-to-date coursework within specialized areas (18 credits - equivalent to 6 coursework). The revised curriculum has two key objectives. First, it is to ensure that the students have sufficient specialized technical background for their research besides the Mathematical and English Technical Writing Tutorials provided by our International School of Engineering. Second, it is to ensure that the students could spend at least 3 semesters for conducting research, writing a thesis, and publishing at least one conference paper. So far 16 Master's students graduated and went back to their countries to serve as faculty members. Three of them, i.e., Mr. Po Kimtho, Mr. Ky Leng, and Mr. Lychek Keo, have been awarded AUN/SEED-Net PhD in Japan scholarships to continue their PhD at



Left: Ms. Vimontha Khieovongphachanh, CU EEE graduate from National University of Laos



Right: Ms. Cho Cho Thet from University of Yangon showing her lab work to the AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat

Tokyo Institute of Technology, whereas Miss Vimontha Khieovongphachanh has also been awarded to continue her PhD at Tokai University. Two Master's graduates from our department in the year 2005, Mr. Ha Duyen Trung and Mr. Le Viet Tien from Hanoi University of Technology, also continue their PhD studies with us under the AUN/SEED-Net PhD Sandwich Program. This year, our first batch of PhD students, Mr. Nazrul Effendy, Mr. Sarjiya, and Ms. Cho Cho Thet are expected to graduate in the second semester of academic year 2006.

EEE department has also been engaged in several of AUN/SEED-Net supporting programs to enhance the academic and research collaboration. During 14-23 June 2006, Dr. Nguyen Huu Thanh, Vice Dean, Faculty of Electronics and Telecommunications, Hanoi University of Technology visited our department as a part of Short-Term Visit Within Member Institution Program. Our representative faculty members conducted 5 promotional trips in 2006 to Hanoi University of Technology, National University of Laos, University of the Philippines-Diliman, De La Salle University, Gadjah Mada University, and Institute of Technology of Cambodia. On 16-17 October 2006, the AUN/SEED-Net EEE Fieldwise Seminar on Multimedia Signal Processing was held in conjunction with Chulalongkorn University-Hokkaido University Inter-

national Workshop on Information Technology and Communication. Over 50 participants joined this joint workshop from 18 institutions. The technical program consists of an invited speech titled "Telecommunication Technology for Research and Education" from Professor Prasit Prapinmongkolarn, National Telecommunication Commissioner, 6 plenary keynotes, and 33 technical oral presentations. The workshop also presented a panel discussion on E-Learning Development as an initiative plan of how Japanese Supporting Universities, Host Institutions, and Member Institutions could work together to have academic collaboration and courseware sharing framework. Our faculty members who involve in Collaborative Research Projects also engage in Short-Term Visit to Japan Program. Furthermore, Faculty of Engineering has just signed Memorandum of Agreement in academic and research collaboration in the field of Electrical Engineering with University of the Philippines-Diliman. Thus, several activities are planned to cherish this partnership.

Towards the end of the first phase of AUN/SEED-Net, we would like to inform you that five-year is a fairly long period for us to get to know each other. Since the first day that the "seed" of partnership has been planted among Japanese Supporting Universities, Host Institutions, Member Institutions, JICA, and AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat, continuous efforts has been endured to make sure that we realize the objectives of this network. Our department has a strong determination to put continuous effort through the succeeding phases of AUN/SEED-Net towards the sustainable ASEAN-Japan partnership in Engineering, Science, and Technology.



Left: EEE faculty staff welcoming Dr. Nguyen Huu Thanh from Hanoi University of Technology



Right: AUN/SEED-Net Field-wise Seminar on Multimedia Signal Processing held in conjunction with CU-Hokkaido International Workshop on Information Technology and Communication

## Events



October 2-3, 2006: AUN/SEED-Net mission visited Hanoi, Vietnam, to meet key persons at Hanoi University of Technology, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Planning and Investment, to discuss the plan for the 2nd phase of the AUN/SEED-Net project and submission procedures of the official request to the Government of Japan.



October 5-6, 2006: Field-wise Seminar in Civil Engineering was held at the Pathumwan Princess Hotel in Bangkok by Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, with focus on transportation and construction management.



October 5-6, 2006: AUN/SEED-Net welcomed Mr. Araki Mitsuya, President of the International Development Journal and member of several committees on international development policies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Having interest in and wishing to promote AUN/SEED-Net, he interviewed several involvers of the project and attended the Field-wise Seminar in Civil Engineering.



October 9-11, 2006: AUN/SEED-Net mission visited National University of Laos, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassy of Japan in Vientiane, Lao PDR, to inform them of the plan for the 2nd phase of AUN/SEED-Net and the official request submission procedures.



October 16-17, 2006: Chulalongkorn University hosted the 1st Field-wise Seminar in Electrical & Electronic Engineering for FY2006 at Montien Hotel, Bangkok.



October 26-27, 2006: The 2nd Field-wise Seminar in Civil Engineering, with focus on geotech and structure, was held by De La Salle University, the Philippines, at the Intercontinental Hotel, Manila.



October 27, 2006: Chulalongkorn University and AUN/SEED-Net jointly conducted an orientation for new students enrolling in the second semester of 2006.



November 20-25, 2006: AUN/SEED-Net team made courtesy visits to Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Council for Development of Cambodia, and Embassy of Japan in Cambodia to discuss the plan of the 2nd phase of AUN/SEED-Net as well as the official request submission procedures.



November 21-22, 2006: The 2nd Field-wise Seminar in Environmental Engineering was arranged by Institute of Technology of Cambodia at the Raffles Le Royal Hotel, Phnom Penh.



November 22, 2006: AUN/SEED-Net conducted monitoring of AUN/SEED-Net students at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.



November 23-24, 2006: The 2nd Field-wise Seminar in Chemical Engineering was organized at the Raffles Le Royal Hotel by Institute of Technology of Cambodia.



November 27, 2006: Students at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand, attended the monitoring meeting conducted by AUN/SEED-Net team.

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